

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
April 28, 2015



Clinical signs of avian influenza in chickens include, from top left: nasal discharge, swelling of tissue around the eyes and neck, swelling around the head, eyelids, comb, wattles and shanks.

Photos courtesy USDA

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT MONITORING SPREAD OF AVIAN INFLUENZA, URGES VIGILANCE BY POULTRY OWNERS

No Confirmed Cases of Highly Pathogenic H5 Virus in Northeast

The Department of Agriculture is advising all Connecticut poultry owners to closely monitor their birds for signs of an avian influenza virus that so far has led to the disposal of more than 7 million chickens and turkeys in 14 Western and Mid-western states.

There have been no confirmed cases of the highly pathogenic H5 virus in the Northeast.

But there is a potential for it to arrive here via wild birds, especially waterfowl, that are known to have spread the highly-contagious disease to domestic flocks in other states.

"We're dealing with a virus that came in on wild birds moving out of their winter nesting area and migrating back to their home territory," said State Veterinarian Dr. Mary J. Lis, who has been participating in regular conference calls with the USDA and state veterinarians in the affected regions. "If it enters the Atlantic Flyway migratory path, we potentially could see it here during the fall migration."

The virus is believed to have originated in the Asian Flyway, and was first detected in the U.S. last December in California. The USDA has confirmed cases in the Pacific, Central, and Mississippi flyways, among both backyard and commercial poultry flocks.

No human cases of the H5 virus have been detected in the U.S., Canada, or internationally, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers the risk to people and the food system to be low.

The states affected so far are Arkansas, California, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

Clinical signs in birds include lethargy, respiratory distress, facial swelling, decreased egg production and sudden death without clinical signs.

Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky urges anyone who notices these signs to contact the department, which offers free necropsy for birds suspected of dying from the virus.

"Everyone has to be vigilant," Reviczky said. "We very much want to stress that poultry owners need to employ bio-security measures for their birds."

Foremost among those measures is keeping domestic birds away from wild ones.

Owners should take appropriate steps including closing holes in coops, installing bird netting and preventing the spread of the virus through manure, equipment, vehicles, egg flats, crates, and people whose clothing or shoes have come in contact with the virus.

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is responsible for monitoring the wild bird population. Domestic poultry, estimated to exceed five million in Connecticut, are monitored by the agriculture department in a number of ways.

(Continued on Page 3)

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

LOW HIGH

SLAUGHTER COWS:

breakers 75-80% lean	104.00	108.50
boners 80-85% lean	107.00	111.50
lean 85-90% lean	98.00	105.00

CALVES graded bull

No 1 112-124lbs	415.00	497.00
No 1 102-103lbs	540.00	545.00
No 1 90-95lbs	570.00	590.00
No 2 113lbs	490.00	495.00
No 2 100-103lbs	520.00	545.00
No 2 90-95lbs	565.00	575.00
No 2 83lbs	645.00	645.00
No 3 107lbs	425.00	425.00
No 3 94-95lbs	455.00	485.00
No 373-84lbs	555.00	560.00

SLAUGHTER STEERS

HiCh/Prm 3-4	161.00	165.50
Ch2-3	157.00	160.50
Sel1-3	150.00	158.00

SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS

HiCh/Prm 3-4	151.00	154.50
Ch2-3	145.00	149.50
Sel1-2	138.00	144.50

SLAUGHTER HEIFERS

HiCh/Prm3-4	159.00	164.50
Ch2-3	154.00	160.50
Sel1-2	149.50	156.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA**SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:**

ch/pr 2-3		
40-110 lbs	265.00	280.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: 2-3

110-300 lbs	72.00	90.00
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BUCKS

120-300 lbs	60.00	87.00
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SLAUGHTER GOATS: Sel.1, by head, est.

40-60 lbs	185.00	210.00
60-80 lbs	215.00	225.00
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	215.00	245.00
130-180 lbs	230.00	260.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150 lbs	270.00	295.00
150-250 lbs	320.00	355.00

PA FEEDER PIG SUMMARY

US # 1-2 20-30 lb	260.00	260.00
30-40 lb	130.00	175.00
50-60 lb	100.00	130.00
60-80 lb	90.00	120.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA.
HOG AUCTION**

Prices quoted by hundred wt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	45.00	50.00
Sows, US1-3			
	300-500 lbs	17.00	26.00
	500-650 lbs	25.50	31.00
Boars			
	200-300 lbs	28.00	30.00
	300-400 lbs	16.00	20.00
	400-600 lbs	4.00	5.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5LB	14.00	14.00
APPLE, MACS, 12-3 LBS	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MACS, 120 US#1	17.00	18.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12OZ	12.00	15.00
CIDER, APPLE 4-1 GAL	24.00	24.00
LETTUCE, HYDROPONIC, 12/CS	15.00	15.00
BEETS, 25LB LOOSE	14.00	18.00
FIDDLEHEADS, 10LB	90.00	90.00
PARSNIPS, 25LB	24.00	30.00
RUTABAGAS, 50LBS	16.00	18.00
SQUASH, BTTRNT, 1-1/9 BU	26.00	28.00
TOMATOES, 12LB, GRHSE, VR	25.00	25.00
TOMS, GHSE, ON VINE, 11LB	12.00	13.00

SHIPPED IN

APPLE, RED DEL, PA, 100, XFCY	20.00	20.00
APPLE, CRTLAND, 88, NY, XFCY	27.00	27.00
ASPARAGUS, CA, JBO, 11LB	38.00	40.00
BEANS, GREEN, FL, BU, MCHPK	21.00	23.00
BLUEBERRIES, GA, 12-1PT	28.00	30.00
BOK CHOY, FL, 50LB	22.00	26.00
BROCCOLI, CA, 20 LB, CRWNS	19.00	24.00
CARROTS, CA, 16-3LB	19.00	23.00
CORN, BICOLOR, FL, 4DZ	15.00	18.00
CUKES, FL, 1-1/9 BU	16.00	18.00
EGGPLANT, FL, 1-1/9 BU	18.00	21.00
NECTARINES, CA, 54-56	42.00	42.00
PEACHES, CA, 48-50	42.00	42.00
RASPBERRIES, CA 12-6 OZ	24.00	27.00
RHUBARB, WA, 20LB	42.00	42.00
SPINACH, SAVOY, NJ, 1.3BU	20.00	24.00
SWISS CHARD, CA, 12/CTN	16.00	18.00

CONNECTICUT GROWN PLANTS

FLAT, FLOWERS	7.75	8.00
FLAT, VEGETABLES	7.75	8.00
4" IMPATIENS, NEW GUINEA	1.60	2.10
4.5" GERANIUM	1.70	2.10
6" GERANIUM	3.50	4.25
10" HANGING BASKET	8.75	9.00
12" PATIO PLANTER	10.90	12.00
12" HANGER, MOSS/FIBER	17.00	17.75
8" SUMMER ANNUAL	4.50	5.00
TOMATO, 2 GALLON	5.00	5.40

NEW ENGLAND CUT FLOWERS

ANEMONE, NY, 10	16.00	16.00
CALLA, XLONG, NE, 5	22.50	25.00
GARDENIA, NE, EA	5.50	5.50
GERBERA, MINI, NE, EA	.85	1.00
LISIANTHUS, NE, 10	17.50	17.50
SUNFLOWER, LGE, NE, 5	6.50	7.50

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Middlefield, CT., April 27, 2015**

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	55.00	65.00
61-75 lbs.	175.00	195.00
76-90 lbs.	430.00	440.00
91-105 lbs.	450.00	460.00
106 lbs. & up	470.00	480.00
Farm Calves	490.00	500.00
Starter Calves	50.00	60.00
Veal Calves	190.00	210.00
Open Heifers	150.00	260.00
Beef Heifers	125.00	130.00
Feeder Steers	140.00	180.00
Beef Steers	130.00	140.00
Stock Bulls	110.00	185.00
Beef Bulls	132.00	142.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	n/a	n/a
Sheep	100.00	200.00
Lambs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	160.00	300.00
Kid Goats	55.00	100.00
Canners	up to	102.00
Cutters	103.00	107.00
Utility Grade Cows	108.00	112.00
Rabbits each	9.00	25.00
Chickens each	3.00	25.00
Ducks each	8.00	21.00

NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDAPer doz. Grade A and Grade A white
in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.10	1.30
LARGE	1.04	1.18
MEDIUM	.81	.94

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGSPer doz. Grade A brown in
carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.63	1.75
LARGE	1.57	1.67
MEDIUM	1.22	1.32

**USDA DAIRY
NORTHEAST/RETAIL**

BUTTER, 1LB	1.99	4.49
CHEESE, NATURAL, 8OZ	1.66	2.99
CHEESE, NAT, 1# SHRED	3.99	3.99
COTTAGE CHEESE, 16OZ	1.66	2.99
CREAM CHEESE, 8OZ	1.25	2.89
ICE CREAM, 48-64OZ	2.39	3.99
MILK, ALL, 1/2 GAL	2.50	2.50
MILK, ALL, GAL	2.99	3.00
SOUR CREAM, 16OZ	1.29	2.00
YOGURT, GREEK, 4-6OZ	.80	1.25
YOGURT, GREEK 32 OZ	3.99	5.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com.

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

8-R. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

27-R. Irrigation Pump on trailer--Yanmar Diesel-liquid cooled-3cyl-21.5hp/Rainbow SBB 4x3x9.5 pump/Primer with 4" SCAN-Kleen Filter, 4" Foot Valve and 170 Feet of 4" HPDE Suction Pipe. Used one season in 2012-excellent condition. Cost new was \$12,400. Reasonable offers considered. Mark after 6pm. 860-977-6948.

29-R. First cutting hay for sale. \$5.00 / bale. 860-881-4219.

31-R. Kubota M5400 with loader, cab, 4x4. \$15,000.00. JD 2940. \$9,500.00. JD 4040, new motor. \$12,000.00. JD 6405, 2WD loader. \$22,000.00. JD 750 tractor with mower deck. \$3,500.00. Several PTO generators. NH 311 baler. \$4,000.00. NH575 baler with thrower. \$12,000.00. NH 570 baler with thrower-SHARP! \$10,500.00. NH 315 baler with thrower. \$5,500.00. JD 338 baler with kicker. \$5,500.00. Case IH round baler, RBX 442. JD 300 round baler. \$6,000.00. 2 star tedder \$1,500.00. NH 256 rake. \$1,600.00. NH 258 rake. \$2,500.00. Double hitch for hayrakes. \$1,600.00. JD 2 row corn planter, model 7000. 1,500.00. JD 10' chisel plow. IH 450 3 bottom reset plow. \$2,500.00. 6 – 9X18 kicker wagons, used. \$3,000.00 each. 2 – IH 4 bottom 720 reset plows—need work. \$1,600.00 apiece. 203-530-4953.

32-R. For Sale: New Holland 310 baler for parts or repair. Best offer. 860-978-5200.

33-R. Alpaca herd reduction sale/ retirement sale. Accepting Offers. Breeding Females available at reduced package pricing! Herd of 11 breeding females. Some national ribbon winners! Carefully selected genetic lineage includes: Bueno, Royal Fawn, & Oliver. All Champion Show Breeding lines Chosen for fiber quality. This is a must see herd! Exceptional quality! Call today - Bethanne - 860-778-4460 - North East Apacas.

34. For Sale: IH 886 tractor, only 2,550 hours. Has open cab with glass front windshield. Asking \$13,500.00. Tel. 203-283-4472. Leave message.

35-R. Stainless tanks, 500 gal. with baffles \$750.00, 50 gallon open \$150.00. International 2 bottom quick hitch plow. \$250.00. Call 203-996-6356.

36-R. Black Angus cow with calf on the side. Call 860-212-5463.

37. 80" wide Maschio Model B rototiller. Very H.D. Low usage on my small farm. Has 4 speed rotor. Asking \$3,200.00. Very nice. Tel. 203-283-4472. Leave message.

38. FMC Model 1229 sprayer. Use on dwarf fruit trees or vegetables. Has J. Bean pump and J. Bean rollover nozzles. Has 16 blade fan, 100 gallon tank, 3 pt hitch, has fiberglass tank and blower housing. Have original operators manual -very nice. Asking \$28,000.00. Tel. 203-283-4472. Leave message.

39. Lely Model 'H' fertilizer and lime sprayer. Have both fert. & lime feed rings. Sand blasted and ready for paint. Asking \$550.00. Three point hitch. Will hold 600 lbs. fert or 1/2 ton of lime. Tel. 203-283-4472. Leave message.

WANTED

28-R. Used or new gutter cleaner 14" links for Patz barn cleaner and used or new fertilizer hopper for no. 56 International 2 row corn planter. Call 203-735-2862.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

(Continued from Page 1)

All poultry and hatching eggs imported into the state must have credentials ensuring that they are disease-free and meet other health standards.

Large commercial poultry or egg-production operations are inspected and birds tested whenever flocks are moved.

A representative sample of chicks at those operations are individually tested when they are very young, and again when they mature into 16-week-old pullets being moved to the laying house.

The chickens are tested again when they are no longer producing eggs and being sold for other purposes.

Poultry auctions and live markets are inspected quarterly, and some may be tested monthly. Domestic birds being entered into agricultural fairs or exhibitions also are required to be tested, although that is done upon invitation of the owner.

Any poultry owner seeking to participate in the free quarterly surveillance program should contact the agriculture department at 860-713-2504.

Suspected cases of the virus may also be reported to the USDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

More information is available at:

http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=avian_influenza.html

AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI) FACT SHEET

Avian influenza viruses can infect chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, ducks, geese and guinea fowl, as well as a wide variety of other birds. Migratory waterfowl have proved to be a natural reservoir for the less infectious strains of the disease known as low pathogenicity avian influenza.

AI viruses can be classified into low pathogenicity (LPAI) and high pathogenicity (HPAI) based on the severity of the illness they cause.

HPAI is an extremely infectious and fatal form of the disease that, once established, can spread rapidly from flock to flock. However, some LPAI virus strains are capable of mutating under field conditions into HPAI viruses.

What Are the Signs?

The clinical signs of birds affected with all forms of AI may show one or more of the following:

- Sudden death without clinical signs
- Lack of energy and appetite
- Decreased egg production
- Soft-shelled or misshapen eggs
- Swelling of the head, eyelids, comb, wattles, and hocks
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs
- Nasal discharge, coughing, sneezing
- Diarrhea
- Lack of coordination

How Is AI Spread?

Exposure of poultry to migratory waterfowl and the international movement of poultry, poultry equipment, and people pose risks for introducing AI into poultry. Once introduced, the disease can be spread from bird to bird by direct contact.

AI viruses can also be spread by manure, equipment, vehicles, egg flats, crates, and people whose clothing or shoes have come in contact with the virus.

AI viruses can remain viable at moderate temperatures for long periods in the environment and can survive indefinitely in frozen material.

NRCS ACCEPTING CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT PROPOSALS

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced availability of Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies.

Proposals are requested from eligible governmental or non-governmental organizations or individuals for competitive consideration of grant awards for projects between one and three years in duration.

Proposals must be for statewide projects and must be received by NRCS before 4:00 p.m. on June 12, 2015.

NRCS anticipates that the amount available for support of this program will be up to \$203,000. Proposals will be screened for completeness and compliance with the provisions of this notice. Incomplete and/or non-compliant proposals will be eliminated from competition, and notification of elimination will be sent to the applicant.

Proposals sent via the U.S. Postal Service, express mail, or overnight courier service must be sent to: USDA-NRCS, CIG Program 344 Merrow Road, Suite A Tolland, Connecticut 06084

For more information, contact Nancy Ferlow, State CIG Program Manager, 344 Merrow Road, Suite A, Tolland, CT, 06084 or 860-871-4049.

Proposals sent electronically must be sent through www.grants.gov or to nancy.ferlow@ct.usda.gov. Applicants are encouraged to read the Supplementary Information provided on the Connecticut NRCS website:

www.ct.nrcs.usda.gov

CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

34-R. Cheese Sales Person for our on farm shop. Sell cheese, educate customers. Update social media. Assist with cheese making and cheese care. Wed-Sunday full time. \$12.50/hour. Go to www.catocornerfarm.com for info.

35-R. Coventry Farmers' Market sales person. Sell cheese at Connecticut's busiest farmers' market! Sundays June – October, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$11/hr. Go to www.catocornerfarm.com for info.

36-R. Summer Cheese Intern – Learn how to make and sell cheese! 3 to 5 days per week, must include Saturday and Sunday. \$9.15/hour. Go to www.catocornerfarm.com for info.



(L to R) Glendowlyn Thames of Connecticut Innovations; MetroCrops owner Steve Domyan; Evan Johnson from U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy's office; Mayor Bill Finch and Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky at the ribbon cutting last week.

INDOOR FARMING OPERATION OPENS IN BRIDGEPORT

BRIDGEPORT - Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky joined Mayor Bill Finch and others last week at the ribbon-cutting for a new hydroponic microgreens farm housed in a former wire factory.

MetroCrops is a three-person operation that grows lettuce and kale under LED lights in a 2,200-square-foot growing area in the renovated factory on River Street.

"This is an exciting development in Connecticut agriculture," Reviczky said. "Having a farm located in an urban environment growing produce under lights 12 months a year and close to a labor force and customer base is exactly the kind of innovative operation that is helping grow Connecticut farms."

Advertising Rates: Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. For more information contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.
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